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Application No. 09/508,024 Paper dated: April 29, 2004

In Reply to USPTO Correspondence of January 29, 2004

Confirmation No. 7139

Attorney Docket No. 388-991024

MAY 03 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.

09/508,024

Applicant

Toshimichi KITAOKA et al.

Filed

March 6, 2000

Title

"Focus Type Longitudinal Wave Ultrasonic Probe

And Ultrasonic Flaw Evaluating Apparatus for

Polymer Material Inspection"

Group Art Unit

2856

Examiner

Nashmiya Saqib Fayyaz

Customer No.

28289

ELECTION WITH TRAVERSE

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Election with Traverse is in response to the Restriction Requirement set forth in the Office Action of January 29, 2004, in connection with the above-identified patent application. Applicant hereby provisionally elects to prosecute Group I (claims 1-7 and 12-20) with traverse. A Petition for a Two-Month Extension of Time is also submitted herewith.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on April 29, 2004.

Linda C. Seger

(Name of Person Mailing Paper)

The same

04/29/2004

Date

{W0117955.1}

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The Examiner states that this application contains claims directed to two patentably distinct inventions, namely (a) Group I: claims 1-7 and 12-20, drawn to a focus type longitudinal wave ultrasonic probe and (b) Group II: claims 8-11 and 21, drawn to a flaw evaluating apparatus. Applicant respectfully traverses the Restriction Requirement for the following reason.

Applicant respectfully asserts that a search for the invention of Group I would be coextensive with that for the invention of Group II. Thus, there would be no undue burden on the Examiner if all claims were to be examined together.

However, in the event the Examiner maintains the Restriction Requirement, Applicant hereby elects to prosecute the invention of Group I, claims 1-7 and 12-20, without prejudice to the later filing of a divisional application directed to the non-elected invention.

Respectfully submitted,

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